

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

Uptown/Carrollton Historic District Study Committee

Meeting #2 Minutes

Date: October 19, 2015

Location: 8539 Willow Street, New Orleans, LA 70118

Called to order: 6:10 p.m.

Adjourned: 8:00 p.m.

Members present: Kim Washington, Marshall Hevron, Michael Harowski, Tim Hemphill

Members absent: Nadege Assale, Ashley Aubrey Harrison, Ron Babin

Staff Present: C. Elliott Perkins, Eleanor Burke, Melissa Quigley

A. Roll Call

B. Review and adoption of 10.7.15 meeting minutes

Motion: Approve the minutes.

By: Tim Hemphill

Second: Michael Harowski

Result: Passed

In Favor: Kim Washington, Marshall Hevron, Michael Harowski, Tim Hemphill

Opposed:

Comments:

While the staff prepared the digital maps, the Committee proceeded to item D.

D. Discussion

Shelley Landrieu of the Garden District Association (GDA) gave a brief account of the creation of the Garden District Partial Control HDLC district and how the neighborhood determined the preferred level of jurisdiction. Mr. Harowski asked if they had issues creating the boundaries. Ms. Landrieu replied that Magazine Street is difficult because one side is full control and the other side is partial control. Ms. Washington inquired how the GDA built neighborhood consensus of what level of jurisdiction to adopt. Ms. Landrieu responded that they worked to educate the neighbors about what the HDLC would cover vs. what they wouldn't. Mr. Harowski asked what complaints had arisen about the HDLC process. Ms. Landrieu replied that there were some issues with the nature of the designs approved by the Architectural Review Committee (ARC). Ms. Burke explained the ARC process and that the ARC accepts both historicist and contemporary designs for infill in historic districts provided they relate to the immediate context.

C. Presentation of Boundary Options



Mr. Perkins presented the boundaries of the existing Uptown and Carrollton National Register districts and highlighted possible areas of concern. Mr. Harowski asked if the district included Claiborne Avenue, how the HDLC would review commercial projects. Mr. Perkins responded that all buildings have ratings and the guidelines differ based on the rating of the building rather than its use. Mr. Hemphill asked if the Commission conditions approval based on redevelopment plans. Mr. Perkins explained that it depends on the level of jurisdiction the Commission has, but in full control districts it does.

Mr. Harowski asked if full control spines are possible as is the case with Esplanade Ridge. Mr. Perkins responded that it is a possibility.

Mr. Perkins explained the difference between National Register Districts and Local Historic Districts. He further explained that the state enabling legislation formerly excluded upper St. Charles Avenue but no longer does, but does exempt specific areas near Tulane and Loyola Universities from being under the jurisdiction of the HDLC.

The Committee discussed whether there should be one or two districts. The staff explained that there are fifteen Commission spots allowed by state law and of those, four are currently at large seats that could be converted to represent newly formed districts. Because of the numbers, Ms. Burke explained that it would be easier from an administrative point of view to have one new district rather than two.

Elliott Perkins returned to the maps and the boundary discussion.

E. Public Comment

At this point, the Study Committee accepted public comment. (See attached Comment cards) The members of the public spoke regarding their preferences for and against HDLC jurisdiction.

F. Recommendations

Ms. Washington suggested the Committee partake in walking tours and contact additional neighborhood associations. Mr. Harowski stated that he thought that the next meeting the Committee should have maps of proposed boundaries to discuss and choose from.

Mr. Hevron stated that he would like more information regarding the HDLC budget so that the Committee does not create an unfunded mandate.

The Committee agreed that they would like the HDLC staff to schedule the next meeting to take place in the uptown area. Mr. Hevron suggested the VFW hall. At this time, there being no further business to attend to, the meeting was adjourned.